

hf Happenings

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South African Radio League 1925 - 2011 Suid-Afrikaanse Radioliga
Member Society of the International Amateur Radio Union Region 1
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SARL VHF/UHF Analogue and Digital Contest

The first leg of the SARL VHF/UHF Analogue and Digital contest starts at 10:00 UTC on Saturday 17 March and ends at 10:00 UTC on Sunday 18 March with CW, SSB, FM and Digital activity on 50, 70, 144, 432 and 1 296 MHz.

You can participate as a Field station - unlimited, analogue or digital; a Club or Multi-Op station - unlimited, analogue or digital; a Rover station - unlimited, analogue or digital; a 4-Hour Limited station - unlimited, analogue or digital or (not recommended) a Base station - unlimited, analogue or digital. The exchange is a RS(T) report and 6-character grid locator. Find the complete rules in the 2012 SARL Contest Manual at

http://www.sarl.org.za/public/contests/SARL_2012_Contest_Manual_issue_10.pdf

PYOS, St Peter and St Paul Rocks - DXCC Entity to Become Rarer!

Already ranked 16th on the "DX Magazine's Most Needed Countries World-Wide List", it was announced this past week that amateur radio DXpedition is now prohibited from the archipelago of Saint Peter and Saint Paul Rocks (PYOS). The prohibition is published on the Web site of SERCIM <http://www.mar.mil.br/secirm/proarg.htm> - Secretariat of the Inter-ministerial Commission for Sea Resources that coordinates and controls the "Program Archipelago of Saint Peter and Saint Paul."

Members of the Federal LABRE DX and some groups in Brazil have shown a true outrage on Social Networks on the Internet. There is already a great mobilization on the part of Amateur Radio with the Brazilian Federal Senators and Representatives to try to reverse the decision to ban DXpedition to PYOS. The biggest concern amongst radio amateurs is that this decision could open a precedent for restrictions on other entities in Brazil as in other parts of the world. For more details, visit <http://www.teresinadxgroup.com/?p=475>

IRTS celebrate 80th birthday on St Patrick's Day

Everyone, whether you are Irish or not, is invited to a party on St Patrick's Day - the CQIR Contest. The CQIR contest takes place next weekend - from mid-day on Saturday 17th

Have **YOU** done anything to promote **Amateur Radio** this month?





March to mid-day the following day. This contest is the international showpiece event for the Irish Radio Transmitters Society's 80th celebrations and while we know most of our serious contesters will be making a big effort on the bands we would ask all stations to join in the festivities over the St. Patrick's weekend.

The multipliers are the 32 EI and GI counties, so those in the "rarer" counties will be very much in demand! Paul, EI5DI, advises that his contest logger SD is free and unrestricted for the CQIR contest. SD may be downloaded from ei5di.com, and users should experiment with test logs before the contest.

Entrants should be aware that the Russian DX contest overlaps with CQIR, and Russian stations will send a 2-character district code instead of a serial. Full rules, including a list of Irish counties, are available on the IRTS website at www.irts.ie/CQIR.

I am getting married on St Patrick's Day, so I must get hold of a shamrock!

March 2012

3 and 4 – ARRL International DX SSB Contest
4 – SARL Hamnet 40 metre Simulated Emergency Contest
7 to 11 – Polokwane Show, Polokwane
8 – International Women's Day
10 – SARL March YL Sprint
10 and 11 – RSGB Commonwealth Contest
17 – St Patricks Day and CQIR
17 and 18 – SARL VHF/UHF Contest
19 to 25 – National Water Week
21 – Human Rights Day
22 to 24 – Green Kalahari Canoe Marathon at Augrabies
23 – World Meteorological Day;
Coastal schools close
23 to 25 – Cape Getaway Show at Lourensford Wine Estate
24 and 25 – CQ WW WPX SSB Contest
28 – SARL 80 metre Club Contest, SSB
30 – Inland schools close

The Original Social Network?

David Brandenburg, K5RQ. Published on Saturday 25 February 2012 in the Sarasota SRQ.

"Social Networking" and all its numerous assorted facets is definitely the "in" thing for 2012. Well, I am here to tell you that Facebook cannot hold a candle to the "social network" system available to amateur radio operators ("hams")!

I have been an amateur radio for over 50 years (licensed at 14) and count among my "friends" a wide variety of men and women in every imaginable situation. And forget the general geek, nerd "ham" stereotype — I have had QSOs (contacts) with kings and heads of state, authors, poets, scientists, TV/radio and movie personalities, politicians, astronauts, software analysts, engineers, concert performers, educators, athletes, CEOs, officials and employees in probably every government organization and publicly and privately held companies, marathon runners, doctors, lawyers, school children, scouts, soldiers in war zones and in every branch of the military, journalists ... shall I go on? I have talked to them from their homes, castles, offices, hotels, in airplanes, space crafts, cruise ships and small and large sailboats, trucks, riding bikes, running, etc., and in every state in the union, probably nearly every country in the world (and some new ones you have never heard of), on every body of water, high on a mountaintop, in big cities and tiny villages rarely heard of, in Eastern Bloc countries behind the Iron Curtain, in exotic places and islands uninhabited with humans (normally) and every imaginable type of amateur radio setup from an 8-year-old whose antenna is some wires strung in the trees to huge, vastly expensive and sophisticated radio stations.

Actually, I have never tallied up the exact number of my "friends" to date, but it probably numbers well over a 100 000 and I am still adding new ones every day. There are literally over 3 000 000 radio amateurs worldwide in our "address book" just waiting to talk to us.

Have **YOU** done anything to promote Amateur Radio this month?





And you know, the most wonderful, magical thing about our amateur radio "friends" is that when we're on the air together no one cares whether you're rich or poor or what your race, religion, ethnic background, sexual preference, political preferences or affiliations are, or your age, gender or occupation or whether you're fat, skinny, ugly or beautiful, or even if you're an ally or a foe in the world arena. Amateur radio literally breaks down every prejudice and barrier. Everyone is amazingly "a friend" — if only for these small moments in time.

David Brandenburg of Osprey has been a ham radio operator for more than five decades

Word to the Wise

Check log - if you realize you have operated in some way that makes you ineligible to participate in the contest, submit your log as a check log. That is an option in the Cabrillo format - place the line CATEGORY-OPERATOR: CHECKLOG in the log file's header section. That way, your contacts can still be used for log checking and the sponsors appreciate that.

Keeping your Earth Wires Safe

Pres, N6SS, reports how he discourages nibbling of his "Beverage on Ground (BOG)" wires by the local rodentia. "BOGs here are made from #14 stranded insulated house wire ... before rolling (them) out at the start of each low band season; the reel is submerged for a week in a tub of diesel fuel mixed with a bag of chilli powder. This procedure renders the wire far less tasty to Arizona critters. In 15 years not a single 'chew thru' has occurred."

Philips Screwdriver

Everybody has encountered the dreaded Philips-head slots worn down to the point where a screwdriver cannot grip enough to turn the screw. This [Apartment Therapy article](#) has a good idea - use a rubber band!



How to Remove a Stripped Screw without an Extractor

Placing a wide rubber band in between the stripped screw and the screwdriver can sometimes help give enough grip to remove a slightly stripped screw head.

Almost everyone whose done some DIY project or handled an electric drill have found themselves at one time or another enjoying the ease of powered hand tool, only to apply too much torque and strip the screw clean. What to do when you have stripped the screw, but do not have a specialized extractor kit?

What You Need - Equipment [or] Tools: Hammer; Clamp locking pliers or needle nose pliers; Wide rubber band; Multi-head screwdriver kit

Instructions

The first thing to do is to immediately stop using the tool/technique, which stripped the screw. Most of the time, this means switching over from a power tool over to a hand tool solution, as you can better control the amount of torque/pressure applied to the stripped screw.

Switch over to a short length screwdriver with a bigger head; switching screw head types (Phillips or over to a crosshead attachment) may also work. If you have a screwdriver kit, which includes a Torx (6 points) or an Allen (hexagonal), these shapes may give enough grip to remove the stripped screw. Just remember to go slowly, apply as much pressure downward and abide by "righty tighty, lefty lousy" mantra so you do not make matters worse.





Sometimes a screw is just stripped enough that none of alternative sizes work. You still have hope! A rubber band may aid in providing enough grip to remove, or at least loosen, the screw. Place a wide band rubber band in between the screwdriver (we recommend bumping one size up from the screw head, which caused the strip) and the screw, then apply hard, but slow force as you turn. If you are fortunate, the rubber band will fill in the gaps caused by the strip and allow extraction.

Perhaps the rubber band trick worked... but only to a certain point and you are still not able to completely remove the screw. That is when a locking clamp-style needle nose pliers can come to the rescue, grabbing and locking the section removed from a flush surface. We don't know how many times this affordable tool has helped us removed old or poorly constructed screws, but it's been enough times that we highly recommend stocking even the smallest of toolboxes or drawers with one.

Finally, if none of these works, you can play the part of Rodin and chisel the screw some depth to provide more tension lost from the strip. But only with the most careful of force, as this may risk losing your screw completely into the surface! You do not want to hammer the screw into the wall/surface, so err on the side of caution. We recommend this as a last resort.

African DX

Mali, TZ - Postponed! Members of the "Italian DXpedition Team" announced two weeks ago that they were planning to be active as TZ5T from Mali between 12 and 27 April. However, their Pilot station Art, IK7JWY, announced this past week [edited]: "We regret having to give bad news about the planned DXpedition. The situation of civil war in Mali between the government and Tuareg is getting worse lately, and for safety reasons, the authorities do not issue licenses to radio amateurs who may be targeted because of radio equipment. For this reason the DXpedition is postponed until a later date." It is suggested to watch their official Web site for updates at <http://www.i2ysb.com>.

Official forum - <http://www.hamradioweb.org/forums/forumdisplay.php?f=65>. Further notices will follow.

Lesotho, 7P8. Peter, EI7CC, will again be active as 7P8PB from the Kingdom of Lesotho between 15 March and 3 April 2012. As before, this is part of a family holiday. Logs will be uploaded on a daily basis to LoTW and ClubLog if at all possible. QSL is via EI7CC direct or via the EI bureau.

Namibia, V5. David GI4FUM, Gilli GI8MIV, Richard GI4DOH and Kalle DM3BJ fly out to Cape Town arriving on 14 March. They will drive up to Oranjemund on 18 and begin operating on 19 March. Their call signs are now confirmed as V5/GI4FUM, V5/GI8MIV, V5/GI4DOH and V5/DM3BJ. They will be operating from the QTH of Andre, V51B. Andre has received a new ring gear for his rotator and is building a new 2 element Quad which will be active by the time the team arrive. Richard, GI4DOH, plans to operate on CW and David, GI4FUM, and Kalle, DM3BJ, will concentrate on RTTY and PSK31. David and Gillian will also be on SSB. The team will be active for CQ WW WPX SSB on 24/25 March with the call sign V55B. All QSLs for the operation should go via David GI4FUM who is QTHR. Website: www.3da0ss.net/

Look for Mathias, DJ2HD to be active as V5/DJ2HD (QSL via home call, direct or bureau) from Namibia between 17 and 27 March, including a multi-operator entry in the CQ WW WPX SSB Contest as V55V (QSL via DJ8VC, direct or bureau).





Kenya, 5Z. Sig, NV7E/ZS6SIG, who has relocated from Pretoria, South Africa, to Nairobi, Kenya, is signing 5Z4EE for about the next three years. Sig announced this past week that he will once again be active in the following contests this year - CQ WW DX RTTY Contest (29 and 30 September) as a SOABHP entry, CQ WW DX SSB Contest (27 and 28 October) as a SOABHP entry and CQ WW DX CW Contest (24 and 25 November) as a SOABHP entry.

Activity (as usual) outside of the contests will be on all bands 160 - 10 metres. QSL via NV7E or at the address shown for 5Z4EE on QRZ.com.

Senegal, 6W. Mike, RA9FW, and Igor, UA9CDC, will be active as 6V7Z from Senegal on 16 - 28 March, including entries in both the Russian DX (17 - 18 March) and the CQ WW WPX SSB contests. QSL via RA9FW, direct or bureau.

Botswana, A2. Frosty, K5LBU (A25CF), Joel, N5JR (A25JR), Don, VE7DS (A25DS), and Keith, VE7MID (A25KW) will be active from Botswana between 18 and 27 March. QSL via home calls. They plan to be active on 160 - 10 metres and to take part in the CQ WW WPX SSB Contest as A25HQ (QSL via K5LBU).

Democratic Republic of Congo, 9Q. Sergiy, UV5EVJ (ex-5X1VJ), is currently active from Lubumbashi using the Amateur Radio Association of the Democratic Republic of Congo's (ARAC) club call sign as 9Q0HQ/7. Activity has been on 80 - 10 metres using CW and SSB. He is expected to be there until the end of March. Sergey is part of the UN mission MONUSCO. QSL via UV5EVJ.

Morocco, CN. Florent, F4CYZ, (MDXC Member #141) is now active as CN2YZ from Morocco until the end of year. His activity from this African country will be from Tangier and especially on the weekends. The Mediterraneo DX Club is supporting his activities and is also providing a Web site (with a log-check included) at <http://www.mdxc.org/cn2yz>

African Islands

Sao Tome & Principe, S9. Matt, K0KKO, and Ed, K0GUV, plan to be active from Ilheu das Rolas (IOTA AF-023, WLOTA 1622, WW Loc JI39gx), Sao Tome & Principe using the call signs of S92DX, S9CW and S9SX on HF and 6 m and will be active from 16 - 23 March 2012. They will have two 6 m stations (1 x- IC-756 PRO III, ACOM 1000, 8 ele M2 (also used for EME); 2 x IC-756 PRO III, 1 kw Amp TBD, 11 ele short boom). Operating frequency of 50,105 MHz SSB, 50,105.7 MHz CW. Website www.k0kko.net/pb/wp_5bd6e10c/wp_5bd6e10c.html

Canary Islands, EA8. Look for Jaime, WP3A, to be active as EF8C from Tenerife Island (DIE S-012, WLOTA 1276, EAA TF), Canary Islands (AF-004), during the CQ WW WPX SSB Contest (24 - 25 March) as a Single-Op/All-Band/Low-Power entry from CQ zone 33. QSL via EB7DX. Look for more info on <http://kp2b.net>

Canary Islands, EE8. Luis, EA8AY, will be active as EE8X from Tenerife Island (IOTA AF-004, DIE S-012, WLOTA 1276, EAA TF) during the CQ WW WPX CW Contest (26 and 27 May) as a Single-Op/All-band entry. QSL via W2GR. Visit his Web site at <http://www.ea8ay.com/ef8x>

Reunion Island, FR. Michael, DF8AN, plans to be active from Reunion Island (AF-016, DIFO FR-001, WFF FFF-011, WLOTA 1812) as FR/DF8AN between 2 and 10 September 2012. Activity will





be mainly on CW on all bands including 6 meters with just 100 watts into a long wire. QSL via home call, Bureau or direct.

Cape Verde, D4. Rick, N6KT, will be active as D44TRS from Cape Verde between 17 and 29 March. He will participate in the CQ WW WPX SSB Contest as D4A (QSL via KU9C).

Seychelles, S7. Just a reminder that operators Tom, DL5NEN, and XYL Claudia, DO5NEN, will be active as S79NEN from Mahe (AF-024) and La Digue Islands (AF-024) between 12 and 28 March. They are calling this a "Honeymoon DXpedition." Activity will be on 40 - 6 metres using CW, SSB, RTTY and PSK. Also, look for activity to be in the CQ WW WPX SSB Contest (24 and 25 March) and the BARTG HF RTTY Contest (17 to 19 March). QSL via DO5NEN.

Please Note: All donations will be transferred one by one to www.unicef.org. They state, "Please help us, DX for kids." There is a donate button on their QRZ.com page, as well as a ClubLog log search.

Madeira Islands, CQ3/CT3. Operators Walter, DJ6QT, Uwe, DL8OBF, Alex, RA1AGL, YL Elena, RC5A, Alex, RM2M, Paul, RN3A, Sergey, UA1ANA, and Gennady, UA9MA will be active as CQ3L during the CQ WW WPX SSB Contest (24 and 25 March) as a Multi-2 entry. QSL via DJ6QT.

Look for operators to be active before the contest between 11 and 26 March, as CT3/home call. QSL via Bureau. Visit the CR3L Santana, Madeira Island (AF-014), Web page at <http://www.cq3l.de>

Comoros, D6. A D64K DXpedition is in the works and details will be forthcoming. QSL via IZ7KHR. Watch the following for updates - www.d64k.com and <https://twitter.com/#!/D64K>

Special Event Stations

Bosnia and Herzegovina. The special event station E72ORS celebrates the 20th anniversary of the Republic Srpska (Serbian republic in Bosnia Herzegovina, capital: Banja Luka) between 1 March and 31 December 2012. QSL via the bureau. See also <http://www.hamradios.org/>

Bulgaria. Once again several special calls remember Bulgarian orthodox saints for one month each - LZ1818MOG January, LZ1401SET February, LZ1784SIB March, LZ1437MGS April, LZ907SKB May, LZ1515PSB June, LZ1822MIT July, LZ916SS August, LZ1737SSS September, LZ1814MIS October, LZ1620PPZ November and LZ1500PNB December. QSLs via bureau. See also www.balkanclub.org/awards.htm

France. The special call sign TM210VH is celebrating the 210th birthday of Victor Hugo until the end of the year. Activity will be on 40, 20, 17, 15, 12 and 10 m. QSL via F4GFE (direct or bureau). Website - www.qrz.com/db/TM210VH

Contest Calendar

This week's contests compiled by Bruce Horn, WA7BNM. The period covered is 12 to 19 March 2012.

QRP Fox Hunt

01:00 - 02:30 UTC 14 March

Mode: CW

Have **YOU** done anything to promote *Amateur Radio* this month?





Bands: 80 m Only
Classes: Single Op - fox or hound
Max power: 5 watts
Exchange: RST and state, province or country and name and power output
QSO Points: 1 point per QSO
Multipliers: (none)
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points
Submit logs by: 02:30 UTC 15 March 2012
E-mail logs to: (see rules)
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at: http://www.qrpfoxhunt.org/winter_rules.htm

CWops Mini-CWT Test

13:00 - 14:00 UTC and 19:00 - 20:00 UTC 14 March and 03:00 - 04:00 UTC 15 March

Mode: CW

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m

Classes: Single Op - QRP, low or high

Max power: HP: >100 watts; LP: 100 watts; QRP: 5 watts

Exchange: Member: Name and member no; non-Member: Name and state, province or country

Work stations: Once per band

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO

Multipliers: Each call once

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 04:00 UTC 17 March 2012

Post log summary at: <http://www.hornucopia.com/3830score/>

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at: <http://www.cwops.org/onair.html>

RSGB 80 m Club Championship, CW

20:00 - 21:30 UTC 14 March

Mode: CW

Bands: 80 m Only

Classes: (none)

Exchange: RST and serial no

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO

Multipliers: (none)

Score Calculation: (see rules)

Submit logs by: 23:59 UTC 21 March 2012

Upload log at: <http://www.rsgbcc.org/cgi-bin/hfenter.pl>

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at: <http://www.rsgbcc.org/hf/rules/2012/r80mcc.shtml>

QRP Fox Hunt

01:00 - 02:30 UTC 16 March

Mode: CW

Bands: 40 m Only





Classes: Single Op - fox or hound

Max power: 5 watts

Exchange: RST and state, province or country and name and power output

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO

Multipliers: (none)

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points

Submit logs by: 02:30 UTC 17 March 2012

E-mail logs to: (see rules)

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at: http://www.qrpfoxhunt.org/winter_rules.htm

NCCC Sprint

02:30 - 03:00 UTC 16 March

Mode: (see rules)

Bands: (see rules)

Classes: (none)

Exchange: (see rules)

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 18 March 2012

E-mail logs to: (none)

Post log summary at: <http://www.hornucopia.com/3830score/>

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at: <http://www.ncccsprint.com/rules.html>

10-10 International Mobile Contest

00:01 - 23:59 UTC 17 March

Mode: Any

Bands: 10 m Only

Classes: Individual; Club; QRP

Max power: QRP: 10 watts

Exchange: Name, state, province or country, 10-10 number and US, VE or G County

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO

Multipliers: Counties

Score Calculation: Fixed: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Mobile: Total score = total QSO points x (total mults and counties activated)

Submit logs by: 31 March 2012

E-mail logs to: tentencontest@roadrunner.com

Mail logs to: Dan Morris, KZ3T, 131 Valencia Lane, Statesville, NC 28625, USA

Find rules at: <http://www.ten-ten.org/Forms/QSO%20Party%20Rules.pdf>

BARTG HF RTTY Contest

02:00 UTC 17 March to 02:00 UTC 19 March

Mode: RTTY

Bands: 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m

Classes: Single Op Expert All Band; Single Op All Band; Single Op All Band 6 Hours; Single Op Single Band; Multi-Single; Multi-Multi; SWL

Max operating hours: Single Op: 30 hours with at least 3 hour rest period

Have **YOU** done anything to promote *Amateur Radio* this month?





Single Op 6 Hours: 6 hours; Multi-Op: 48 hours

Exchange: RST, serial no and 4-digit time (UTC)

Work stations: Once per band

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO

Multipliers: DXCC countries once per band; JA, W, VE and VK areas once per band; Continents once regardless of band

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total country/area mults x continents

Submit logs by: 1 May 2012

E-mail logs to: logs@bartg.org.uk

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at:

<http://www.bartg.org.uk/documents/contests/hf/rules/bartg-hf-rtty-contest-rules-2012.pdf>

SARL VHF/UHF Analogue/Digital Contest

10:00 UTC 17 March to 10:00 UTC 18 March

Mode: Analogue - CW, SSB and/or FM, Digital

Bands: 50 MHz, 70 MHz, 144 MHz, 432 MHz, 1296 MHz

Classes: Base - unlimited, analogue or digital; Field - unlimited, analogue or digital;

Club/Multi-Op - unlimited, analogue or digital; Rover - unlimited, analogue or digital; 4-Hour

Limited - unlimited, analogue or digital

Exchange: RS and 6-character grid locator

Work stations: Once per band

Score Calculation: (see rules)

Submit logs by: 2 April 2012

E-mail logs to: contest@sarl.org.za

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at:

http://www.sarl.org.za/public/contests/SARL_2012_Contest_Manual_issue_10.pdf

Russian DX Contest

12:00 UTC 17 March to 12:00 UTC 18 March

Mode: CW, SSB

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m

Classes: Single Op All Band Mixed - QRP, low or high; Single Op All Band CW - low or high;

Single Op All Band SSB - low or high; Single Op Single Band Mixed; Multi-Single; Multi-Two;

SWL

Max power: HP: >100 watts; LP: 100 watts; QRP: 5 watts

Exchange: Ru: RS(T) and 2-character oblast; non-Ru: RS(T) and serial no

Work stations: Once per band per mode

QSO Points: Ru Stations: 2 points per QSO with same country same continent; 5 points per QSO with same country different continent; 3 points per QSO with different country same continent; 5 points per QSO with different continent

non-Ru Stations: 10 points per QSO with Ru station; non-Ru Stations: 2 points per QSO with same country; 3 points per QSO with different country same continent; 5 points per QSO with different continent; 5 points per QSO with /MM

Multipliers: Each oblast once per band; Each country once per band

Have **YOU** done anything to promote *Amateur Radio* this month?





Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 1 April 2012

E-mail logs to: logs@rdxc.org

Upload log at: <http://www.rdx.org/asp/pages/wwwlog.asp>

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at: <http://www.rdx.org/asp/pages/rulesg.asp>

CQIR - Ireland Calling

12:00 UTC 17 March to 11:59 UTC 18 March

Mode: CW, SSB

Bands: 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m

Classes: Single Op Manual - Ireland or world - CW, SSB or mixed; Single Op Assisted - Ireland or world - CW, SSB or mixed

Exchange: Irish: 3-Digit serial no and County; World: 3-Digit serial no

Work stations: Once per band per mode

QSO Points: 3 points per CW QSO; 2 points per SSB QSO; Double QSO points for QSO with Irish station

Multipliers: Each Ireland county once per band per mode

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 15 April 2012

E-mail logs to: cqirlogs@irts.ie

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at: <http://www.irts.ie/cgi/showrules.cgi?cqir/>

Oklahoma QSO Party

13:00 UTC 17 March to 01:00 UTC 18 March and 13:00 - 19:00 UTC 18 March

Mode: CW/Digital, Phone

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10, 6 m

Classes: Single Op - QRP, low or high; Multi-Single; Mobile Single Op; Mobile Assisted; Mobile Unlimited

Max power: HP: >100 watts; LP: 100 watts; QRP: 5 watts

Exchange: OK: RS(T) and county; non-OK: RS(T) and state, province or country

Work stations: Once per band per mode

QSO Points: 2 points per phone QSO; 3 points per Digital/CW QSO; 500 points for each OK mobile worked in 5 different counties

Multipliers: OK: Each state, province, OK county and DXCC countries once; non-OK: OK counties once

Score Calculation: Total score = (total QSO points x total mults) and bonus points

Submit logs by: 20 April 2012

E-mail logs to: okqlogs@suddenlink.net

Mail logs to: Oklahoma QSO Party, Connie Marshall, K5CM, 2991 S. Woodland Rd., Muskogee, OK 74403, USA

Find rules at: <http://k5cm.com/okqp2012rules.pdf>

Virginia QSO Party

14:00 UTC 17 March to 02:00 UTC 18 March and 12:00 UTC-24:00 UTC 18 March

Mode: CW, Phone, Digital

Have **YOU** done anything to promote *Amateur Radio* this month?





Bands: All, except WARC

Classes: Single Op - fixed, mobile, expedition - high, low or QRP - multi-band or single band - CW, phone, digital or mixed; Multi-Single - fixed, mobile, expedition - high, low or QRP - multi-band or single band - CW, phone, digital or mixed; Multi-Multi - fixed, mobile, expedition - high, low or QRP - multi-band or single band - CW, phone, digital or mixed

Max power: HP: >150 watts; LP: 150 watts; QRP: 5 watts

Exchange: VA: Serial no and county; non-VA: Serial no and state, province or "DX"

Work stations: Once per band per mode

Score Calculation: (see rules)

Submit logs by: 15 April 2012

E-mail logs to: vqp@verizon.net

Mail logs to: VA QSO Party, Call Box 599, Sterling, VA 20167, USA

Find rules at:

http://www.gsl.net/sterling/VA_QSO_Party/2012_VQP/2012_VQP_Rules.html

Feld Hell Sprint

16:00 - 18:00 local 17 March

Mode: Feld Hell

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m

Classes: (none)

Max power: Standard: 100 watts

QRP: 5 watts

Exchange: (see rules)

Work stations: Once per band

QSO Points: (see rules)

Bonus Points: (see rules)

Multipliers: (see rules)

Score Calculation: (see rules)

Submit logs by: 24 March 2012

E-mail logs to: kj8o@wowway.com

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at: <http://sites.google.com/site/feldhellclub/Home/contests/sprint-rules>

North Dakota QSO Party

18:00 UTC 17 March to 18:00 UTC 18 March

Mode: CW, Phone, Digital

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10, 6, 2 m

Classes: Fixed; Mobile; Out of State

Exchange: ND: RS(T) and county; non-ND: RS(T) and state, province or country

Work stations: Once per band per mode

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO

Multipliers: ND Stations: each state, country and ND county once; Non-ND Stations: each ND county once

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 15 May 2012

E-mail logs to: wOnd@arrl.org

Mail logs to: WOND, c/o Lynn Nelson, 6940 4th St. SW, Minot, ND 58701, USA

Have **YOU** done anything to promote *Amateur Radio* this month?





Find rules at: <http://www.k0ln.com/ndqso12.pdf>

Run for the Bacon QRP Contest

01:00 - 03:00 UTC 19 March

Mode: CW

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m

Classes: Single Band; All Band

Max power: 5 watts

Exchange: RST, state, province or country and member no or power

Work stations: Once per band

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO with non-member; 3 points per QSO with member on same continent; 5 points per QSO with member on different continent

Multipliers: Each state, province, or country once

Multiply mults by 2 if >50 members worked

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 25 March 2012

E-mail logs to: (none)

Upload log at: <http://fpqrp.org/pigrun/autolog.php>

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at: <http://fpqrp.org/pigrun/>

Bucharest Contest

18:00 - 20:59 UTC 19 March

Mode: CW, SSB, PSK31

Bands: 80, 40 m

Classes: Single Op QRP - CW, SSB, digital or mixed; Single Low Power (LPI) - CW, SSB, digital or mixed; Multi-Op Low Power (LPC) - CW, SSB, digital or mixed; SWL

Max power: LP: 100 watts; QRP: 5 watts

Exchange: YO: RS(T), QSO no and Sector or County; non-YO: RS(T), QSO no and Country Code

Work stations: Once per mode

QSO Points: 2 points per QSO: YO3 - YO3 or YO - YO or YO - Foreign; 4 points per QSO: YO3 - YO or YO - YO3 or YO3 - Foreign

Multipliers: Each YO county; Each YO3 sector; Each country code

Score Calculation: Total score = total score of each segment (total QSO points x total mults)

Submit logs by: 23:59 UTC 29 March 2012

E-mail logs to: fenyo3jw@yahoo.com

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at: <http://bucuresti.ynos.ro/cb/index.php/en/>

Next Week's Contests

CLARA HF Contest, 17:00 UTC 20 March to 17:00 UTC 21 March and 17:00 UTC 24 March to 17:00 UTC 25 March

QRP Fox Hunt, 01:00 - 02:30 UTC 21 March

NAQCC Straight Key/Bug Sprint, 00:30 - 02:30 UTC 22 March

Have **YOU** done anything to promote *Amateur Radio* this month?





RSGB 80 m Club Championship, SSB, 20:00 - 21:30 UTC 22 March
QRP Fox Hunt, 01:00 - 02:30 UTC 23 March
CQ WW WPX SSB Contest, 00:00 UTC 24 March to 23:59 UTC 25 March
NSARA Contest, CW, 11:00 - 15:00 UTC and 17:00 - 21:00 UTC 25 March
QRP Homebrewer Sprint, 00:00 - 04:00 UTC 26 March

History This Week

A look back at events that made history this week - compiled by the Summerland Amateur Radio Club of Lismore, NSW and Dennis, ZS4BS. The week starting Monday 12 March 2012.

- 1519 - Cortez lands in Mexico (13 Mar)
- 1693 - Hackney cabs (horse-drawn taxis) were authorised for the first time in Glasgow, Scotland (15 Mar)
- 1755 - A steam engine was first reported used in America, at a copper mine in New Barbados Neck (12 Mar)
- 1781 - English astronomer William Herschel detected Uranus in the night sky, but he thought it was a comet (13 Mar)
- 1794 - Eli Whitney was issued a US patent for his cotton gin (14 Mar)
- 1834 - The first US railroad tunnel (275 m long) was completed between Hollidaysburg and Johnstown, Pennsylvania (18 Mar)
- 1839 - Sir John Herschel referred to "photography" in a lecture to the Royal Society (14 Mar)
- 1877 - British annex Walvis Bay (12 Mar)
- 1894 - Atlanta pharmacist Dr. John Pemberton sells the first bottles of his tonic, Coca-Cola. He created the liquid in his backyard from a combination of cinnamon, coca leaves, lime and kola nuts brewed in a brass kettle in an attempt to find an alternative to alcoholic beverages during prohibition. He markets the formula as a brain and nerve tonic for medical use, but he will later add carbonated water and sell it as a beverage (12 Mar)
- 1879 - Albert Einstein (14 Mar)
- 1898 - The first practical submarine was demonstrated by John Holland off Staten Island in New York for 100 minutes (17 Mar)
- 1899 - Count Ferdinand von Zeppelin was issued a US patent for his invention of his "Navigable Balloon" (14 Mar)
- 1900 - British forces occupy Bloemfontein, Oranje Vrij Staat (13 Mar)
- 1907 A camera-carrying space rocket patent was issued to Alfred Maul, a German engineer (12 Mar)
- 1912 - Capt Albert Berry performs the first parachute jump from an airplane (12 Mar)
- 1919 - A wireless telephone was invented enabling air pilots to talk in flight (16 Mar); Nat "King" Cole (17 Mar)
- 1926 - Jerry Lewis (16 Mar)
- 1930 - Clyde Tombaugh at the Lovell Observatory announces the discovery of Pluto (13 Mar)
- 1933 - Michael Caine (14 Mar); Quincey Jones (14 Mar)
- 1936 - FW de Klerk (17 Mar)
- 1938 - Rudolf Nureyev (17 Mar)
- 1967 - First human heart transplant performed - Dr Chris Barnard (12 Mar)



Items used with acknowledgement to The ARRL Letter, Amateur Radio Newsline, OPDX Bulletin, 425 DX Bulletin, DXNL Bulletin, ARRL DX News, WIA-News, the RSGB News, Southgate ARC and Pete's DX Newsdesk.

Have **YOU** done anything to promote *Amateur Radio* this month?

